

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Specification

Applicants have amended paragraphs [0003] – [0007] in order to correct informalities.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 14-23 are allowed. Applicants wish to thank Examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103

Claims 1-8 and 24-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent. No. 6,788,666 B1 (*Linebarger*) in view of U.S. Patent. No. 6,681,083 (*Koonen*) for various reasons. *Linebarger* describes a hybrid fiber wireless communication system. *Koonen* describes a power splitter for optical networks.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections by canceling claims 1-13, amending a portion of claims 24-33 with the limitations of allowed claim 14, as well as adding new claims 34 – 44 also with the limitations of allowed claim 14. Applicants submit that claims 24-44 should now be allowable over the cited references for at least the same reasons stated for allowed claim 14. Applicants therefore request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the §103 rejections.

No new subject matter has been added.

Conclusion

Applicants have amended the claims to further clarify features that are not described or suggested by the references. For these reasons, Applicants respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejections of the claims.

In view of the discussion herein, Applicants believe that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully request a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at 408-257-5500.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments

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